

## Alex McCarthy

### Director

Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management



As an emergency manager, I am responsible for making sure that Delaware County is prepared to help first responders, residents, business owners, and local officials in the event that we experience a disaster. We do this by developing emergency plans, purchasing various resources through grants, and working with our cities, villages, and townships as they recover after disasters. As a meteorologist, this is a great job opportunity as most of the disasters we have in Ohio are weather-related hazards; winter storms, tornadoes, floods, etc. Even those disasters that are not directly caused by weather, such as hazmat incidents and disease outbreaks, are still influenced by the weather.



**Skills used:** Being able to write well is important for this job. Additionally, it helps to be confident at public speaking. Because of the nature of our work during times of crisis, critical thinking skills are essential. You also need to know how to be decisive when making decisions.



**Recommendations to youth:** We live in a complex world that can seem scary at times, but there are good people out there who constantly do good work to help others. I view emergency management as more than just a profession; it is the intersection of all careers, disciplines, and skillsets during times of disaster to help survivors recover. Regardless of what career you choose in life, be mindful about how your skills may help others during emergencies.

**To learn more about a few of the many careers that connect with climate and climate change, visit [go.osu.edu/climate-careers/](https://go.osu.edu/climate-careers/).**



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